



OUTCOMES FROM DEAKIN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING 2, 2019 – 23 MAY 2019

At its meeting on 23 May 2019 Deakin University Council dealt with matters as follows in accordance with its legislative responsibilities and 2019 business schedule.

Setting the strategic direction of the University

Council considered reports, developments and the latest information on key matters affecting the University's strategy, and an update on the outcomes of the recent Federal election and the potential impact on higher education funding.

Overseeing and reviewing University performance

Council considered a report on the University's performance against targets for student enrolments following the Trimester 1 census date.

Council considered a presentation from Professor Julie Owens, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, on research strategy and noted:

- key features of Deakin's recent strong research performance:
 - the University has made steep rises up global research rankings and in the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) assessment
 - multiple indices demonstrate that this rise is due to quality of research, not simply volume
 - Deakin holds a unique position among Australian universities as having all its ERA assessed research at or above world standard while simultaneously maintaining a leading position for student learning satisfaction
- matters that the University was addressing to continue Deakin's momentum.

2018 Deakin University Annual Report

Council received the published 2018 Deakin University Annual Report, which was tabled in the Victorian parliament on 1 May 2019. The Report is available at the [Deakin website](#).

Overseeing risk management and monitoring systems of control and accountability

Council noted the Audit and Risk Committee's consideration of matters including:

- student complaints handling at Deakin in 2018
- Deakin's cyber security awareness program
- the draft report "*Results of 2018 Audits: Universities*".

Overseeing the management and control of finances

Council reviewed the Finance and Major Projects Reports to 31 March 2019, incorporating Outlook 1 for the full financial year. Council noted the progress of major projects against budget, scope and timelines and noted the reasons for any variation from targets

Council considered the Investment Committee's deliberations relating to changes to an investment manager with whom the University invests.

Council approved expenditure for Stage 1 of the Geelong Future Economy Precinct. The precinct represents a major investment in improving and expanding infrastructure at the Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus over multiple stages.

Oversight and monitoring of academic activities

Council received a report on the outcomes of the meeting of the Academic Board held on 16 April 2019 and noted:

- the Board's engagement with the 'hot topic' presentation on CloudFirst degrees demonstrating a quality online experience through effective design and delivery
- work on recommendations from the French review of freedom of speech at Australian higher education providers; the University is mapping its policy and procedures against the provisions of the proposed Model Code to identify any gaps and a working party of the Academic Board will analyse the Code in the context of the current review of policies related to academic freedom.

University legislation and policy

Council approved the establishment of the Institute for Mental and Physical Health and Clinical Translation and conferred authority on the Legislation Committee to make establishing legislation. The Institute will build on high performing and expanding research groups in the Faculty of Health, and with its partners will focus on enhancing translation of basic discoveries in biomedicine into clinical practice.

Council noted the progress of work on the University's statutes and regulations to ensure that they are clear, relevant and up-to-date. The reform is a longer term project which will deliver lasting benefits through streamlined and better coordinated Regulations.

Council was advised that the University Solicitor has examined the impact of the *Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme Act 2018* to ensure that the University meets all compliance obligations. The Legislation Committee will consider a report on this matter at an upcoming meeting.

Honours and acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of service of retiring Vice-Chancellor

Council acknowledged with acclamation the service to Deakin University and Council from 19 July 2010 to 30 June 2019 by retiring Vice-Chancellor Professor Jane den Hollander AO.

Council paid tribute to Professor den Hollander's outstanding achievements, notably in developing and implementing the successful *LIVE the future* strategic plan, which is supported strongly throughout the University. Council recorded its thanks to Professor den Hollander for her inspiring leadership and for instilling a culture which values a commitment to excellence, diversity, innovation and new ideas at all levels of the University.

Professor den Hollander thanked Council members for their steadfast commitment to the University's future focussed strategy and to the highest standards in decision-making.

Acknowledgement of service of retiring Executive members

Council expressed its appreciation of the outstanding service to Deakin University by retiring Executive Deans Alfred Deakin Professor Brenda Cherednichenko and Professor Brendan Crotty. Council acknowledged with acclamation Professors Crotty and Cherednichenko's many achievements in leading the Faculties of Health and Arts and Education respectively.

Conferral of the title of Emeritus Professor

Council approved with acclamation the conferral of the title Emeritus Professor upon five esteemed Professors, noting their leading contributions to research, teaching and scholarship.

Awarding of Deakin Honorary Doctorates

Council approved the awarding of four Deakin Honorary Doctorates to individuals for their outstanding contributions to the community aligned to the University's objectives.

Council's own affairs, appointments and effectiveness

Council approved the reappointment of Ms Kathy Grigg as a Council appointed member for a term of office from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Council approved its 2020 meeting dates.